



Town of Stonington  
 Cultural District Commission  
 152 Elm Street  
 Stonington, Connecticut 06378

**Regular Meeting**  
**Cultural District Commission**  
**Monday, November 13, 2023, 5 pm**  
**Woolworth Library and Research Center**  
**40 Palmer Street, Stonington, CT 06378**

**COMMISSIONERS**

- Anthony Caporale  
Regular Member
- R. Douglass Rice  
Regular Member
- Laura Hopkins  
Regular Member
- Gabriella Radujko  
Regular Member, Scribe
- Paul Geise  
Regular Member, Chair
- Elizabeth Wood  
Regular Member
- Matthew Beaudoin, Vice  
Chair  
Regular Member
- Susan Lavender Fornara  
Alternate Member
- Marya Ursin  
Alternate Member
- Sandra Alexander  
Alternate Member
- Daniel Brandl  
Alternate Member
- Jessica Cerullo  
Alternate Member

Call to order by Paul Geise, Cultural District Commission Chair

- 1) Review and acceptance of the 10/16 CDC minutes, amend as necessary

**Old Business**

Progress reports from October assignments

Official copies to be collected by **Gabriella R:**

- Copy of Resolution from the City Council/Board of Selectmen
- List of Cultural District Commissioners and their relevant role/category as per representation guidelines
- Master Map of Cultural District
- List of cultural assets, including cultural events held at locations within the proposed Cultural District

Official legal documents on zoning overlaps or ordinances relevant to the Cultural District, such as existing Arts or Historic District (if applicable): Collected by **Elizabeth W.**

Marketing materials, if relevant to the Cultural District: **Sandy A.**

Supporting section/reference in municipal Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) and explain how the Cultural District relates to the goals articulated in the POCD, and how Cultural District state designation affects how those goals will be accomplished. **Doug R.**

Maps of any relevant existing districts, such as an Arts District and/or Historic District: **Doug R.**

K-12 Arts Curriculum Education information –Number of art/s teachers in the middle and high schools? Does the district have an Arts Curriculum coordinator, or a teacher that has time dedicated to fill that role?: **Jessica C.**

List of all relevant town committees and commissions that will interface with the Cultural District Commission due to the nature of their responsibilities: **Matt B.**

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Updates on work to secure central repository for shared CDC information and documents [Dropbox and Google Drive]: **Paul G.**

- 2) Discuss monitoring and cataloging language/definitions we will use (JC) when crafting our messages to internal and external audiences and guidelines for naming CDC documents: **Marya B.**

**New Business:**

Offers of comment on:

- Outreach to other models –

*Ridgefield, established April, 2021 <https://www.ridgefieldct.com/culture>*

*-Torrington, established April, 2022 <https://www.itshappeninghere.com/>*

*-New London, established April,*

*2022 <https://www.facebook.com/newlondonculturaldistrict> and learn more about*

*New London at <https://visitnewlondon.org> .*

*-Wethersfield, established May, 2022 [HistoricWethersfield.org](http://HistoricWethersfield.org)*

*-Bristol, established August, 2022*

- Marketing
- Branding
- Signage/wayfinding
- Social media
- Education
- Community engagement
- Stakeholder growth
- Funding
- Other??

Discussion of how best to include those cultural resources near but not within the district footprint.

Discussion of how best to establish a community identity for a designated district..

3) **Dropbox items::**

- 4) Public Comment: Meeting recap/action steps and request for input on what should go on the next agenda.

5) Adjournment